

NSC BRIEFING

NO CHANGE IN CLASS.

DECLASSIFIED

CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C


REVIEW DATE:

DATE: 1-16-80

372044

10 January 1957

YEMEN-ADEN BORDER HOSTILITIES

- I. 9 Jan Cairo press report Yemeni declaration war on UK remains unconfirmed. Probably propaganda release.
- A. Yemen (pop: 4½ million) claims Aden Protectorate and Colony.
- B. Ill-defined border is chronic trouble-zone. Trouble has increased markedly since late Nov, following Oct arrival some Bloc arms.
- C. Ruler (Ismah Ahmad, spiritual leader of Zaydi sect) *Sharia*  25X6
- D. Yemeni adventuring being encouraged by Egypt, Soviet Union, and Saudi Arabia.
- E. Counteractions (by RAF, UK troops and British-led native levies) have been exaggerated by Yemeni, Egyptian and Soviet propaganda.
- II. Yemeni forays show new boldness, signs of improved organization.
- A. Light AA fire first noted 31 Dec. 25X1C
- B. *Yemeni* Intruders occupying villages; must be driven out *(NO LONGER JUST RAIDING, BUT ACTUALLY)* *(BY SUPERIOR FORCE)* *(WON'T PULL BACK UNTIL)*
- Bloc arms now in Yemen include AA, AT guns and light weapons.
- A. Egyptian, Soviet and Czech instructors present.

SECRET